

REMARKS

Should this case not be found to be in condition for allowance, an **interview is requested** before issuing another Official Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 25, 26, 31, and 32 were rejected over that limitation "the arrangements" in line 2. The rejection stated that there was insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 22 first recites "arrangements".

Claim 25 now depends from claim 22. Claim 26 depends from claim 25.

Claim 31 depends, via claims 30 and 29, on claim 22. Claim 32 depends from claim 31. Therefore, proper antecedent basis is present in claims 31 and 32.

Withdrawal of this rejection is solicited.

New Claim

Claim 35 is new and is based on claim 21, further reciting that the kernel is in direct contact with the insert. No new matter is entered by this amendment.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claim 21-23, 25, 26, 29, 31, and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Marlow (US Pat. No. 5,989,294).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 24 and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marlow in view of Broderick et al. (US Pat. No. 5,156,626).

Claims 27, 28, 33, and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marlow in view of Pappas et al. (US Pat. No. 4,624,674).

Traverse

Marlow does not anticipate.

The independent claims require "the spherical internal cavity (2a) of the insert (2) and the internal spherical cavity (4a) of said hemispherical kernel (4) have respectively a center of rotation (O1, O2), the respective centers of rotation (O1, O2) being aligned on the axis of symmetry (x-x') of the cup, and being non-coincident when the cup (1), insert (2) and kernel (4) are assembled."

To rejection maintains that the center of rotation of the insert (element 11) and the center of rotation of the kernel (element 13) are necessarily not coincident because the center of

rotation of the kernel is pushed below the center of rotation of the insert because of the presence of the bearing balls 14 between the insert and the kernel.

Applicant respectfully disagrees.

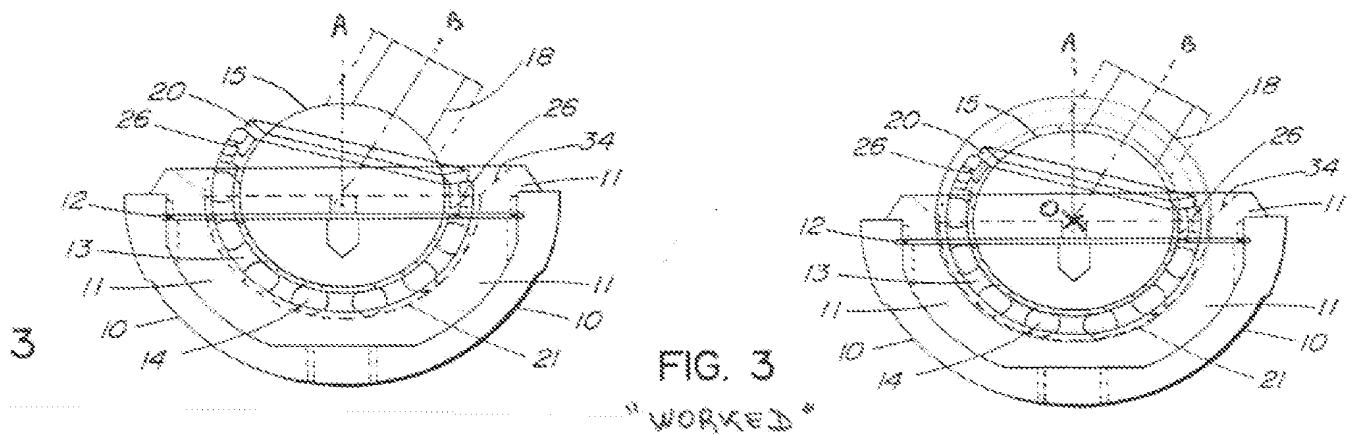
The centers of rotation of the insert and the kernel coincide necessarily for the following reasons:

- the insert and the kernel each have an hemispherical shape;

- the kernel is configured to present some inner and outer surfaces parallel to each other and with the inner surface of the insert (Figures 2-4);

- the bearing balls placed between the kernel and the insert are the same diameter and are distributed through the kernel 13 in an uniform manner (Figure 3 below). The parallelism between the surfaces of the kernel and of the insert is kept. Hence, the centers of rotation are the same. Therefore, the presence of bearing balls does not shift the centers of rotation.

Please consider the below Figures 3.



As illustrated in Figure 3, the complete sphere corresponding to the insert (and more particularly the inner surface of the insert) and the kernel, show clearly that the spheres are concentric with a same centre O. In Fig. 3 «Worked», line 18 corresponds to the inner surface of the insert and concentric inner lines correspond to the inner and outer surfaces of the kernel. These lines are concentric with each other.

Marlow therefore does not anticipate, since Marlow does not disclose the recited feature of "the spherical internal cavity (2a) of the insert (2) and the internal spherical cavity (4a) of said hemispherical kernel (4) have respectively a center of rotation (O1, O2), the respective centers of rotation (O1, O2) being aligned on the axis of symmetry (x-x') of the cup, and being non-coincident when the cup (1), insert (2) and kernel (4) are assembled".

As to new claim 35, there is recited the further feature that said kernel is in direct contact with said insert.

Marlow, in contrast, does not disclose the kernel in direct contact with the insert. Rather, no direct contact is possible because it is provided bearing balls therebetween.

Reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner not agree with this analysis, an interview is requested before issuing another Official Action.

Summary

Reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are therefore respectfully requested. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and early notice to that effect is hereby requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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